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## Museums & Cultural Affairs

### The City of El Paso Public Arts Committee (PAC) Tuesday, May 10, 2011, 3:30 PM City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room

#### MINUTES

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call:** Meeting was called to order at 3:35 pm.

**Members Present:** Jesus Alvarado, Rida Asfahani, R. Katherine Brennand, Ken Gorski, Martina Lorey, Marina Monsisvais, and Elizabeth Thurmond-Bengtson.

**Members Absent:** Ray Parish and Jane Thomas.

**Others Present:** Margaret Schroeder, Patricia Dalbin, Alejandra Carrillo, and Maria Aragon.

**2. Public Comment:** None.

**3. Approval of Minutes.** Chair asked for approval of the Minutes for last meeting on March 8, 2011. Marina Monsisvais motioned to approve the minutes as presented; Rida Asfahani seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

**4. Discussion and action on the artist selection process for the Sun Metro Alameda and Mesa BRT projects.** Pat Dalbin introduced Margaret Schroeder, Traffic Engineer for the City, who's been working on the Sun Metro projects. Margaret Schroeder mentioned that the acronym BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) will be replaced and will be known as RTS (Rapid Transit System) moving forward. Mentioned that the RTS projects are focused on light rail speed with few stops in between main corridors. Mentioned 4 main corridors within city limits: Alameda, Mesa, Montana and Dyer. Mentioned 80 ft. pedestrian platforms will be spaced out throughout the route; goal is to feature identifiable branding and increased business to local merchants. Pat Dalbin proposed that 3 artists be selected for the Alameda RTS and 2 artists be selected for the Mesa RTS; explained that artists would work simultaneously on different parts of the route to create diversity and give opportunity to more artists. General discussion about aesthetics and specifically maintaining continuity of branding throughout the 4 corridors; inquiries about how branding will be maintained with various artists on each corridor vs. 1 artist per corridor; concerned that when too many artists are afforded self-expression, the branding will be lost. After brief discussion, Committee agreed that one artist per corridor is what they prefer. Chair asked for a motion to approve the artist selection process for Alameda and Mesa RTS projects. Marina Monsisvais moved to approve the selection of one artist (or artist team) for each of the RTS Corridors throughout the city; Rida Asfahani seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Before moving to the next item, Pat Dalbin asked for volunteers to serve on the upcoming panel for the Alameda and Mesa Corridors. Martina Lorey (Alameda) and Floyd Johnson (Mesa) were each appointed by self-acclamation.

**6. Discussion and action on the artist selected for Fire Station #37 by Artist Selection Panel.** Marina Monsisvais sat on the selection panel and reported that artist Ilan Averbuch was selected for the project. Mentioned his previous work is organic but strong, as well as aesthetically pleasing. Panel agreed he'd be a good fit with firefighters. Mentioned grading was system based on capacity and process, and his credentials met the qualifications. Provided a presentation with previous works for review and consideration. Marina Monsisvais asked for a motion to approve the final selection of artist Ilan Averbuch for moving the project forward. Marina Lorey moved to so approve; Jesus Alvarado seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and the motion passed unanimously.

**7. Public Art Status Report.** Pat Dalbin provided copy of the Public Art Status report for review and discussion. Presented images of projects in progress as well as those recently completed. Amongst those in progress, these were mentioned: Cleveland Square, NE Regional Park, and Bataan Railway.

**8. Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm. Next meeting scheduled for June 14, 2011.

Approved for content by:  
Patricia Dalbin, Public Art Program Coordinator

Respectfully submitted by:  
Maria Aragon, Administrative Assistant